

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMENDING MR. CLARENCE
OWEN BROWN

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 1, 2011

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to commend Mr. Clarence Owen Brown, who is being honored tonight for 50 years of teaching excellence. He has influenced and inspired hundreds of students in Central Louisiana, and his exemplary contributions and dedication to enhancing the countless young minds should be celebrated.

Born January 19, 1936 in Ball, La., to Clarence Walter and Hazel Elba Bailey Brown, he is the brother of Howell Brown, Aubrey Brown and Norma Brown Simpkins.

He attended grades 1–12 at the “old” Tioga High School, where he later returned to instruct. Mr. Brown continued his education at Louisiana College graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree with a minor in music. He then received a Master of Science degree in biology from Northwestern State University (NSU), as well as post-graduate degrees from NSU, Louisiana State University and Louisiana Tech University.

Mr. Brown has devoted half a century to educating students in Central Louisiana. His lengthy service includes teaching high school in Rapides Parish Public Schools for 30 years with 28 years at Tioga High School, one year each at Cheneyville High School and Peabody High School. Since 1991, he has been an educator at Alexandria Country Day School.

Beyond the classroom, Mr. Brown has been the director of television ministries at First United Methodist Church from 1983 to present, and has served as interim music director on several occasions.

In addition to his professional and service contributions, Mr. Brown is a caring husband, father and grandfather. He and his lovely wife, Miriam Jordan Brown, are the proud parents of Paul David Brown and Stacy Brown Wolf and grandparents to Mary Rose and Owen Hayes Wolf.

With 50 years of teaching underneath his belt, Mr. Brown has definitely left his fingerprint on the world. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Mr. Clarence Owen Brown for the indelible impact he has had on his students’ lives.

IN RECOGNITION OF STEVE
SIMMONS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 1, 2011

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Steve Simmons for his years of service to the State of Texas.

Mr. Simmons worked as the Deputy Executive Director for the Texas Department of

Transportation since 2001. After earning his degree in civil engineering from the University of Houston in 1981, he began his career with TxDOT as a project manager in 1982. He then went on to serve as the deputy district engineer for TxDOT’s Houston District and was named the Fort Worth district engineer in 1998. During this time he also served on the Regional Transportation Council of the North Texas Council of Governments. Under Mr. Simmons’ leadership, the Fort Worth District received the Design Excellence Award for a Metropolitan District in 1998, 1999 and 2000.

Mr. Simmons’ service also includes time on the civil engineering advisory boards for the University of Houston and the University of Texas at Arlington.

Mr. Simmons received the University of Houston’s Engineering Alumni Association’s Distinguished Young Engineering Alumnus Award in 1997 and the Distinguished Engineering Alumnus Award in 2005, making him the first University of Houston graduate to attain both awards. He was one of the university’s inaugural inductees into the Cullen College of Engineering’s Academy of Distinguished Civil and Environmental Engineers. His ability to help make projects a success dates back to his youth when he earned the rank of Eagle Scout.

There are numerous transportation projects in the 26th District and I have been grateful for the efforts of Mr. Simmons. Whether weighing in on a highway in need of expansion or coming to North Texas to update my constituents on the state of our transportation system, his willingness to serve has equaled his professionalism.

It is with great honor that I recognize Steve Simmons for his years of hard work and dedication given to the citizens of Texas.

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS FOR
THE SAFE RETURN OF SPACE
SHUTTLE “ENDEAVOUR”

HON. SANDY ADAMS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 1, 2011

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to welcome home the Space Shuttle *Endeavour* and its crew of six from the STS–134 mission. The Space Shuttle *Endeavour* landed safely in the early morning hours today at Kennedy Space Center located in Florida’s 24th Congressional District. The astronauts of STS–134 spent a total of 16 days in space and delivered the Alpha-magnetic Spectrometer-2 to the International Space Station, which will be a critical tool for analyzing cosmic particles traveling through space.

This is the final flight of the Space Shuttle *Endeavour* and now with its 25th successful mission since 1992, including the first servicing mission for the Hubble Space Telescope, numerous Space Station assembly missions, and the delivery of the AMS–2, the orbiter will

be retired to the California Science Center. *Endeavour* has carried over 170 courageous astronauts to space and honorably fulfilled the legacy of its namesake, the 18th century ship chartered by explorer James Cook to travel throughout the south pacific.

I offer my congratulations on a job well done to Commander Mark Kelly, Pilot Greg Johnson, Mission Specialists Mike Fincke, Drew Feustel, Greg Chamitoff, and European Space Agency Mission Specialist Roberto Vittori.

They are heroes and courageous explorers for all of humanity. Welcome home team.

HONORING MR. KENNETH
AHLSTROM

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 1, 2011

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the death of United States Navy veteran Mr. Kenneth Ahlstrom.

Mr. Ahlstrom served in the Navy during World War II aboard the USS *Phoenix* in the southwest Pacific, and participated in 25 landings in New Guinea, New Britain, the Philippines, and Borneo.

Mr. Ahlstrom was devoted to his local Buffalo community, and held offices in the American Legion, the Dunkirk High School Maudrauder Booster Club, and Willowbrook Cemetery.

Mr. Ahlstrom was also a family man. He leaves behind a widow, Mrs. Nancy Ahlstrom, 8 children, 17 grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren.

It is with great pride that I rise today to remember Mr. Kenneth Ahlstrom, a veteran of our Nation’s armed forces, and a proud member of my own Buffalo community.

STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO
THE PATRIOT SUNSETS EXTENSION
ACT OF 2011

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 1, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the PATRIOT Sunsets Extension Act of 2011.

The bill that is under consideration today would again extend authorities under the USA PATRIOT Act known as the “roving wiretap” provision, the business records, or “library,” provision, which provides authority to compel production of business records or “any tangible thing” deemed related to a terrorism investigation, and the so-called “lone wolf” provision.

These provisions continue to raise serious privacy concerns and potential threats to our civil liberties, which is why I have voted

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